



THE COLONNADE

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Ross Jolly revamps GC women’s basketball

GC’s new coach brings new tactics to the court in hopes of improvement

Chris Collier
Senior Writer

GC women’s basketball has a new head coach in Ross Jolly. Jolly takes over the program with Division I coaching credentials on his resume and a rich basketball history in his rearview. Jolly grew up in a family in Tennessee where basketball was more than just a game. “A lot of our conversations at the dinner table or in the living room were basketball conversations,” Jolly said. “At a pretty early age, just understanding and having a lot of knowledge of the game—I didn’t have too much of a choice. That [basketball] was always in the conversation.”

Jolly said there was a particular moment in his life when he decided to pursue a coaching

career within basketball. “I think it was my sophomore year in college—and I kind of always knew

that was going to happen from my dad coaching [and] both of my siblings coaching,” Jolly said.

For the past three seasons, Jolly was an assistant women’s basketball coach at Radford Univer-

sity in Radford, Virginia. Jolly played a part in propelling The Highlanders to their first NCAA Tournament in 23 years. Jolly is beginning to put his thumb print on the culture at Centennial Center as he takes over the women’s basketball program. “I don’t focus on anything in the past—I’m kind of giving them [the players] a blank slate and not worrying too much,” Jolly said. “You know, I watch a little film, but some of it’s not relevant to what we’re doing, and we’re just trying to think forward.”



Jessica Gratigny | Asst. Photo Editor

This is Coach Jolly’s first season coaching GC’s women’s basketball team

See JOLLY | Page 5



Jessica Gratigny | Asst. Photo Editor

Carl Tuleus discusses the differences between American and Swedish culture over coffee at Blackbird

Exchange students get hit with Southern charm

An international point of view, A GC welcome

Lilia Starnes
Staff Writer

International students come to GC to get a sense of the American college experience. It only takes one step on the GC grounds to immediately get all the

sights and smells of a true college campus. This fall GC welcomes 60 international students from all over with 26 of these students returning from last year. For many of the international students, Milledgeville is unlike

any city they have visited. The Southern hospitality can come off as a culture shock on its own in the best way possible. Anna Boehmer, an international student from Germany, is one of those 26 returning students. “You guys really love

small talk and are super friendly,” said Boehmer, a senior criminal justice major. “Out of all of the possible culture shocks, people being too friendly comes as a nice surprise.” See CULTURE | Page 7

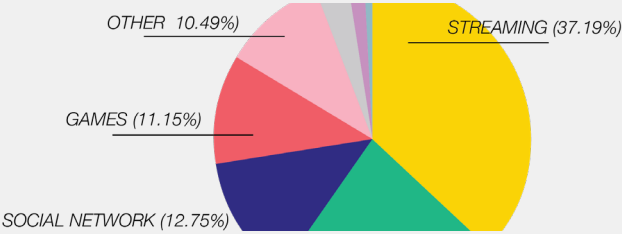
New GA ID makes its way onto campus

Samuel Tucker
Senior Writer

The state of Georgia recently implemented new designs for their state IDs as part of an initiative to create a state ID with the most secure credentials possible. According to a press release from the Georgia Department of Driver Services, the new cards will be made of premium polycarbonate and will have ID photos in black and white rather than color. These changes were implemented in an effort to reduce forgery and protect against identity fraud. The new design will feature the symbolic Georgia peach and outline of the state with a new color scheme and text style. While citizens are not required to update their ID until their previous one expires, many establishments in Milled-

geville that serve alcohol have already begun training their employees to check the new IDs. Bob Ewing, the owner of Amici in downtown Milledgeville, recently had an instructional session for employees about the new state ID. “We have already met as a company and discussed it,” Ewing said. “We had a guy who owned one so we broke it out, showed them and compared what it looked like to the old one give them a reference point.” Rather than using the traditional method of flexing the IDs, the quickest and easiest way to verify the legitimacy of the new ID is to shine it under a blacklight. Certain security features on the new IDs will be laser engraved, and a blacklight will be the only way to spot these new features. See LICENSE | Page 2

NEWS



GC IT TRACKS INTERNET USAGE
Streaming dominates student wifi usage at GC

SPORTS

CORINTHIAN COLUMNS ON EVERYTHING.”

WE HAVE A FIGHT SONG?

Discover the GC fight song sure to inject bobcat pride into any crowd

ARTS & LIFE



MAC MILLER REMEMBERED
A tribute to the late Mac Miller in honor of the first anniversary of his death

09.11.2019

NEWS

LICENSE

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“We don’t have a blacklight scanner yet, but we probably will get a handheld one to keep at the door when we have door guys and then it’ll stay behind the bar at nighttime,” Ewing said.

Some students here at GC have already renewed their ID and are getting used to the new ID design. While all previous IDs are still valid forms of identification, it may take some getting used to for students nervous about their ID being rejected at a bar or liquor store.

Madison Block, a senior nursing major, is one of the students who received the new ID after renewing her driver’s license after turning 21 years old. “I was a little worried people would think it’s fake, especially since I just turned 21, but everyone that has looked at it just makes a comment about it, like, ‘oh you have the new ID’ or ‘this is weird, I haven’t seen the new IDs yet,’” Block said. Block has already used her new ID at bars and liquor stores, and no one has denied it despite the changes made.

GEORGIA ID DIFFERENCES

OLD

Color photo

Yellow star

NEW

New outline

Black and white photo

Different color scheme

Black and white star

New peach logo

Angie Yones | Art Director

MILLEDGEVILLE CRIME

SEPT. 11

CAR VANDALIZATION

ON SEPT. 1, POLICE WERE CALLED TO A RESIDENTIAL HOME IN REFERENCE TO A CAR BEING VANDALIZED. THE OWNER OF THE CAR STATED THAT WHILE PARKED NEAR BAYNES ARMY STORY SHE NOTICED HER VEHICLE HAD BEEN MARKED WITH SOMETHING WHITE ON THE ENTIRE REAR OF HER BUMPER.

FIGHT OUTSIDE AMICI

ON SEPT. 5, MPD RESPONDED TO A CALL FROM GCPD IN REFERENCE TO TWO MALES FIGHTING OUTSIDE OF AMICI ON THE INTERSECTION OF HANCOCK STREET AND WAYNE STREET. THE TWO MALES HAD GOTTEN INTO A VERBAL ARGUMENT AFTER ONE OF THEM GOT OFF WORK AT AMICI’S. WHEN MPD ARRIVED AT THE SCENE THERE WERE NO WITNESSES AND BOTH MEN WERE PLACED UNDER ARREST FOR AFFRAY DUE TO THEM FIGHTING IN A PUBLIC PLACE.

Compiled by Lindsay Stevens | Managing Editor

VOLUME 95 | NO. 18



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Sept. 19	Oct. 17	Nov. 7
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GC IT Department monitors student wifi use

What are students using most often on GC wifi?

Gaige Gagnon
Staff Writer

The IT Department at GC maintains GC_Secure, making it possible for them to track what students are doing on Wi-Fi. The IT Department has the technology to track IP addresses through reverse DNS. This means the IP addresses that students browse is tracked. “As far as privacy goes, we don’t peak into what you’re doing,” said Charlie Weaver, GC Interim Chief Information Officer.

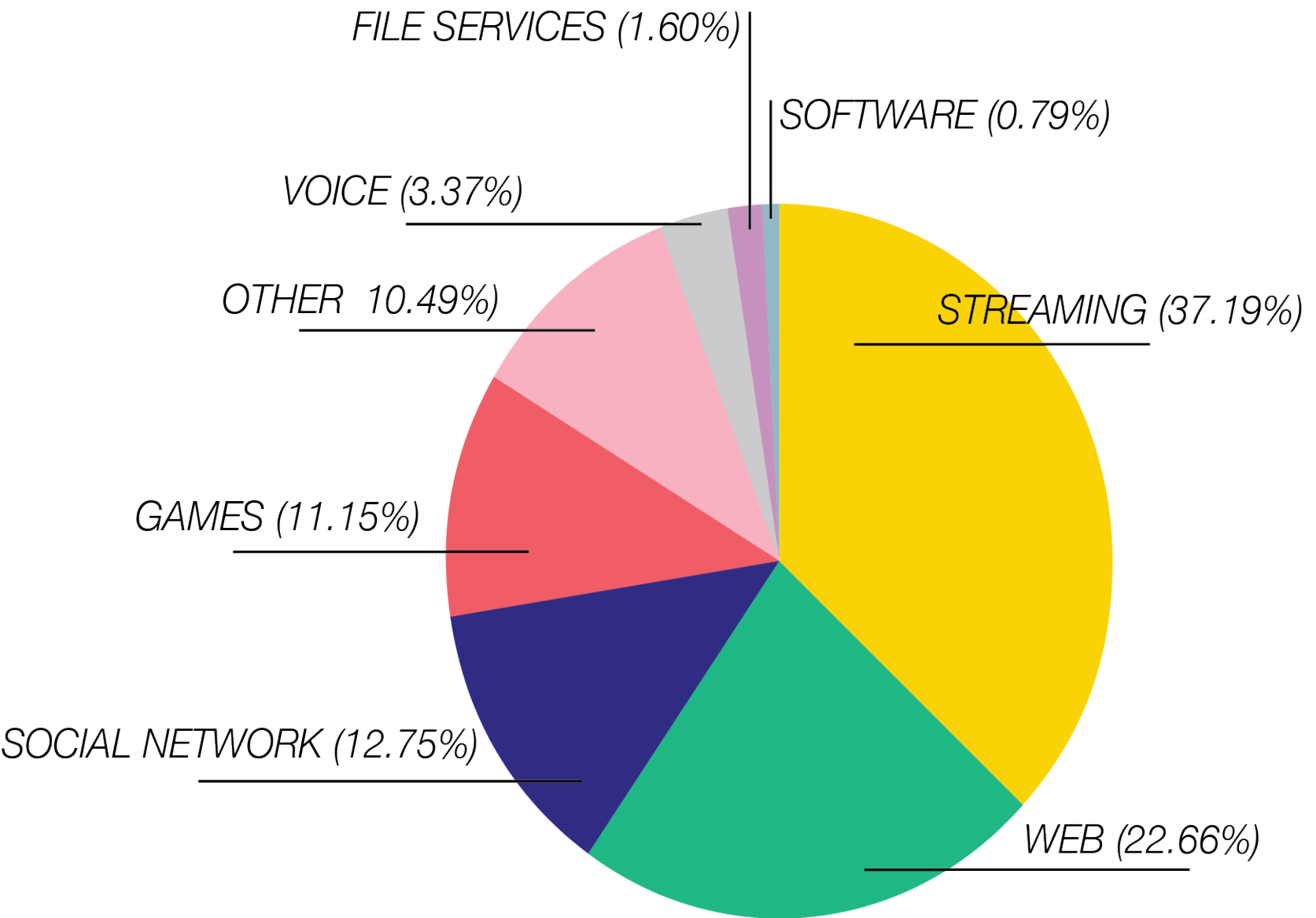
The department does not track students unless they use the school’s Wi-Fi with malicious intent. This includes harassment, foul play, running money scams, and much more. The IT Department is obligated to follow federal, state, USG and university policies. Therefore, if someone breaks these policies, GC has the right to track your internet use. “We tell everybody here is what is expected of you,” Weaver said. “Here’s the expectations. Here’s the acceptable use. Don’t violate that and you’re good.” The IT Department’s system organizes Wi-Fi use by protocols, which might be streaming or HTTP. The endpoints of those protocols are also tracked. Pornography falls

under still images and streaming protocols. The IT Department can see those endpoints through reverse DNS. “I can’t tell where you went on any given day, but I can see patterns,” Weaver said. “I can’t tell you who it was, what they are doing, or what they are watching.” Weaversaysstreaming traffic is probably around 70% of all traffic that comes through. The most consumed streaming sites by students is Netflix. Hulu, Instagram, YouTube, and gaming sites are all at the top as well. “As somebody that’s already aware of the surveillance on our phones and laptops, I’m already under the impression that everything I do could always be tracked or monitored, so it really isn’t a situation that affects me,” said Jackson Anderson, a 5th year MIS major. “I already go into the mindset of knowing that you’re already being tracked already.”

The day-to-day duty of the department is to manage how much bandwidth is being used to make sure students have ease of access. The amount of bandwidth being used depends on the peak hours of use, which are from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday are the days when the school wifi is used the most by students. Bandwidth can be affected by the weather. “If it’s rainy and drizzly and horrible outside, people stay in,” Weaver said. “And then what do you do when you are inside? You watch TV, you surf the web, you play games.” The IT Department is working to expand the Wi-Fi connection on campus to places where students might congregate, such as on front campus or around the fountain. “Sometimes the bottom of the lib can be spotty, but it’s never really a mobile issue,” said Allie Gambrel, Senior marketing major.

Weaver implores students to submit feedback about the Wi-Fi to the IT Department. “We are always very interested in hearing feedback about the wireless networks on campus and housing,” Weaver said. “I would always appreciate the students calling the help desk or letting housing know when there are problems.”

HOW ARE STUDENTS USING WIFI?



Angie Yones | Art Director

Breaking Silence
a Project Safe initiative

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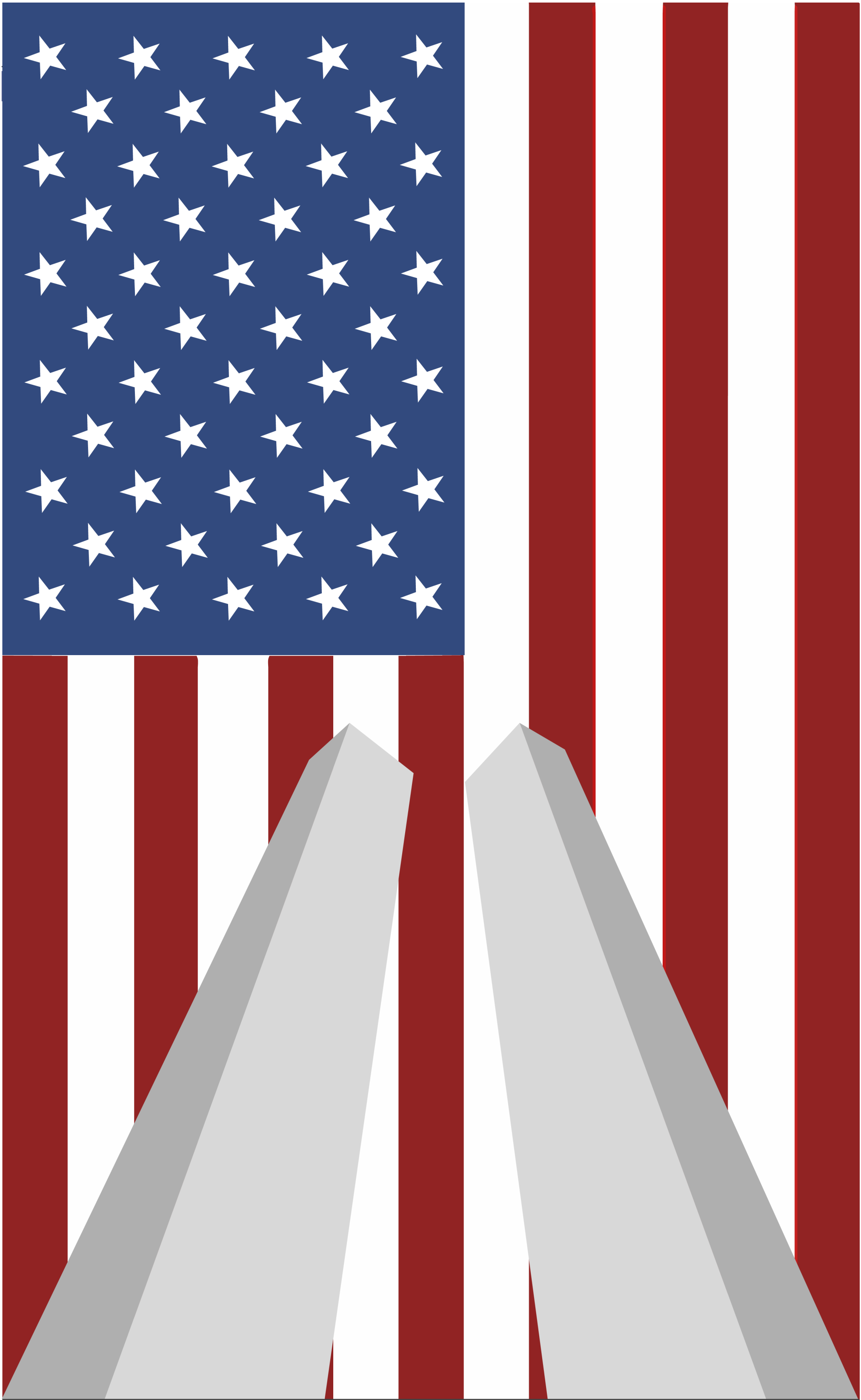
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WE REMEMBER
9/11

SPORTS

JOLLY
Continued from page 1

Because of the re-vamped nature of the program, Jolly wants his team to stay patient as they continue to learn the ins and outs of what he’s attempting to establish.

“I told them, everyone on our team is a freshman right now,” Jolly said. “I’ve got one senior, and I told her

she’s my only senior/freshman. Everybody’s considered new; there’s a lot of newness to it.”

Kenyatta Storms, a junior business major and guard for the Bobcats, said Jolly’s arrival has injected an extra level of energy into the team.

Storms said there has been some degree of adjustment as the team inches toward the 2019 season with a more aggressive play style.

“I would definitely say the defensive system, as I’ve been here for three years, it’s kind of hard to switch some of my mentalities that we’ve been taught,” Storms said. “For instance, he’s very big on guarding the ball.”

Dali Hardaway, a junior nursing major and forward for the team, looks forward to the more aggressive playing style that Jolly brings to the table.

“I kind of like that

better,” Hardaway said. “It gives you more of an urgency to guard your man—your man cannot score because you don’t have help. You have to be accountable to guard your own man.”

Hardaway said the offensive side of the ball has seen some changes, too.

“Offensively, we play way faster than we did before,” Hardaway said.

When it comes to team goals for the 2019

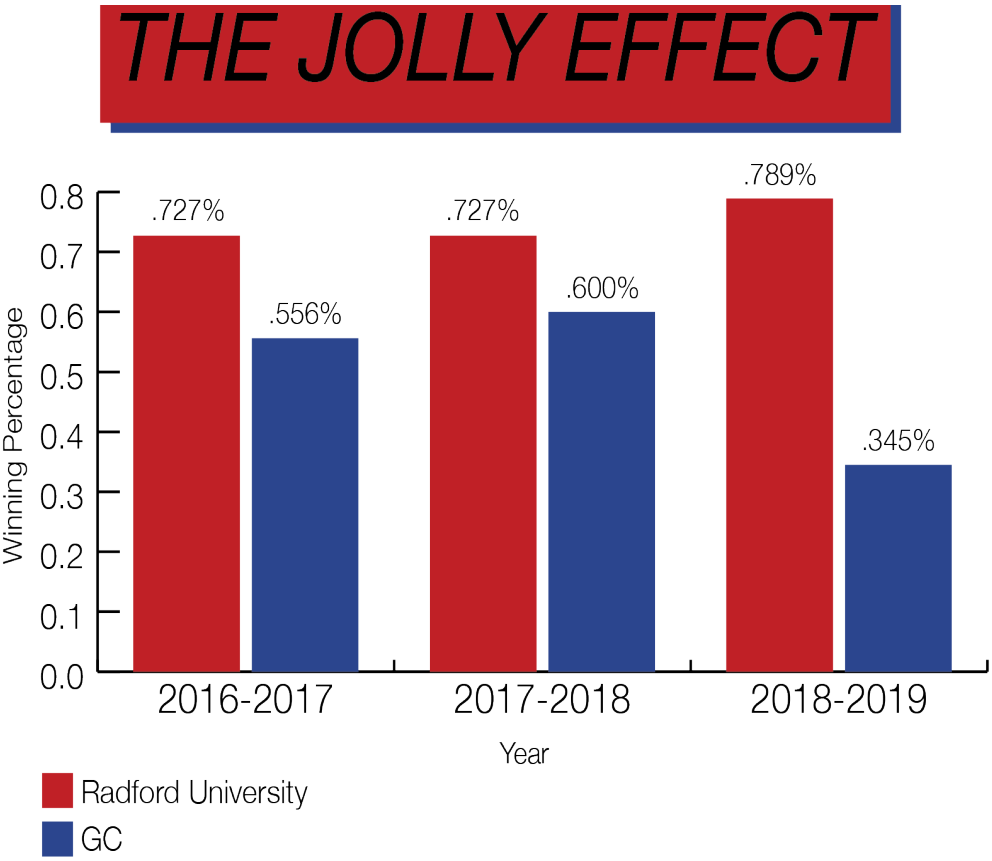
season, Jolly takes it one day at a time.

“To be honest with you, I don’t have any goals as far as, you know, number of wins—that sort of thing,” Jolly said. “I think the main thing that I would like to see this year is establishing how we are going to move forward, and how we are going to establish how we practice every day.”

Jolly has a message for GC basketball

fans across campus.

“Fans, [and] people that come to the game, they’re going to at least respect and appreciate how hard we’re going to play and how tough we’re going to be—win or lose, no matter what happens in the result—so we’re going to strive to control what we can control,” Jolly said.



Angie Yones | Art Director

Jessica Gratingy | Asst. Photography Editor

GC Women’s Basketball Head Coach Ross Jolly poses for a photo after practice

Here comes the thunder!
Scream, shout and roar along with the thunderous GC fight song

Ava Leone
Staff Writer

GC’s fight song fell off student’s radar years ago. With instrumentals, choristers and lyrics to die for, the only thing left for GC to do is hype this piece of music up again!

Marcus Green and Paul Rossetti entered lyrics and won SGA’s fight song competition in 2010 with Terrance J. Brown composing the score.

“The words Paul and I combined embody what the campus looked like to us—the Corinthian columns, blue and green pride colors and older traditions like the golden slipper,” said Marcus Green in a 2010 interview published by GC after winning the competition.

Brown made the creation of the fight song a goal during his four year term as SGA president. With his music minor, Brown felt compelled and prepared to compose a piece that would represent the college.

“I tried to create original music that would provide a proper yet spirited backdrop,” Brown said in an article published by GC in 2010 after the debut of the piece.

GC’s pep band still performs the song at most games held in the

**“WE’VE GOT
BLUE AND
GREEN
LIKE YOU’VE NEVER SEEN AND
CORINTHIAN
COLUMNS
ON EVERYTHING.”**

Angie Yones | Art Director

Centennial Center, usually before and during basketball games. The euphonium, flute and french horn, accompanied by a percussion set, ring throughout the basketball court with their wholesome sound.

Brown made plans in 2010 to record the song for future events, but some were opposed to the idea. The recording seldom plays over the intercom now.

“To me it sounds a bit hokey if you have a recording,” said Assistant Athletic

Director Al Weston.

Weston thinks the band sounds much clearer when performing live and gives the crowd more enthusiasm with their physical presence.

Most students are not familiar with the song due to lack of interest in the music and lack of attendance at games.

“I’ve never heard about it,” said sophomore Rebecca Davis, a middle grades education major. “I guess it’s not really publicized.”

Davis said she rarely attends games at the Centennial Center.

Some chose GC as a school of choice because we do not have a football team where fight songs are traditionally played.

Michael Muller, a senior geography major, said he decided to attend GC due to the lack of a football team. He also said he rarely attends games at Centennial Center.

“My older brother, who didn’t go here, had friends who went here [GC] and they would sing the fight song all the time,” Muller said. “My brother brings it up all the time, but I’ve never actually heard it

at Georgia College.”

So why did this gem of a tune lose so much spirit within the last few years? University Historian Dr. Bob Wilson GC posed some suspected answers.

“Whoever did the music did a good job at creating the spirit of a fight song,” said University Historian Dr. Bob Wilson. “He’s created the spirit of a fight song that would normally have been written in the 1920’s or earlier and that’s great if you’ve had it for that long.”

Wilson said that colleges with fight songs from the early 20th century, like Notre Dame and UGA, whose songs and style were very popular in their time continue on because students sing and play them for nostalgia. They carry tradition over many years.

“But to create it new, in 2009, you would think you might want something more contemporary in style,” said Wilson. “I love these things. I love what he did. I just think that maybe the students thought ‘this is way too retro.’”

Wilson caught on to the reason why students are uninterested in the song. It lacks years of morale to be composed with an early 1920’s style.

GC might be able to turn school spirit around by playing the song at more events, rewriting a more contemporary version, or composing a new piece all together.



Scan this to listen to the bobcat fight song!



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SEXUAL health

Wrap it up: misconceptions about contraceptives

Kristen Maddox
Staff Writer

It is important students understand birth control to avoid unwanted outcomes and preserve individual health. “Birth control does just that, it prevents a birth from happening,” said Rachel Pope, Prevention Coordinator for Student Affairs. “If you’re just on the birth control pill, you may want to consider using another method to prevent an STD.” According to Georgia College’s National Collegiate Health assessment in spring, 66.1% of 1,104 students surveyed said they used birth control pills to prevent pregnancy. A common miscon-

ception is that antibiotics always diminish the effectiveness of birth control pills. “There are usually enzymes in the liver that is created by antibiotics that break down stuff like estrogen, which can decrease levels of estrogen in the body, and can influence the effectiveness of the pill,” said Janeth Hernandez, a junior pre-nursing major. However, the United Kingdom’s National Health Service says rifampin and rifabutin, antibiotics used to treat tuberculosis and meningitis, are the only antibiotics proven to decrease the efficacy of birth control. Although, amoxicillin is a common antibiotic prescribed for a variety

of bacterial infections. A study conducted by the University of Manitoba in Canada found amoxicillin to be among few antibiotics that, “have infrequently been linked with reduced oral contraceptive effectiveness.” Often, an individual using birth control decides whether to use additional contraception while taking antibiotics. “Let the antibiotic run its course,” said Pope. “That’s not a risk you want to take.” According to the NCHA survey, male condoms are used 60.4% of the time students are engaged in sexual intercourse. Despite the statistic, condoms are not always used in the best way to prevent pregnancy.

“The two-condom method. That’s probably the most dangerous thing you could do,” said Pope. “Because that much friction with two condoms can cause you to have tears, holes or rips.” Students can attend sexual health presentations and condom demonstrations hosted by Student Affairs in dorms throughout the semester. Presentations discuss different forms of birth control, oral sex and the 10 steps to put on a condom. The NCHA survey reports 44.6% of students are using withdrawal to prevent pregnancy. This is the third most common method of birth control on the GC campus and works by withdrawing the

penis before ejaculation. However, this method of contraception exposes both parties to sexually transmitted diseases and potential pregnancy through a pre-ejaculatory fluid. “That deeply concerns me that is even in our mindset that withdrawal is okay,” said Pope. “When we have so many other options that are just quick and easy.” Students worried about the result of a recent sexual encounter may choose to use emergency contraception. Emergency contraception is a high dose of birth control. It either prevents the release of an egg, or the sperm and egg are unable to attach

to the uterine wall. Emergency contraception is a few days worth dosages of birth control and can have a negative impact on the body, Pope said. “We see a lot of students come in and they take it every other month,” Pope said. “We don’t want students to use [emergency contraception] as their only go-to.” There is a slight risk of side effects for all forms of birth control. “Everyone’s unique bodies experience birth control in different ways,” said Laney Daniel, a freshman pre-nursing major. If students are unsure about how birth control may affect them, Health Services can help discuss their options.



Jessica Gratingy | Asst. Photography Editor

Before coming to GC, Tuleus based many of his perceptions of America on the show “Gilmore Girls”

CULTURE

Continued from page 1

While some have strangers starting conversations others have noticed some iconic American stereotypes such as “the portions are larger in the states or” “fast food is the main food group for Americans,” said Isabella Echeveria, a junior mass communication major and vice president of the international club. “When I first arrived in the states I ordered a medium Coke and was shocked at the bucket of soda I received when I checked out,” said Carl Tuleus, an in-

ternational student and journalism major from Sweden. “In Sweden, the medium Coke I ordered is equivalent to extra-large serving size.” From the viewpoint of many international students, their vision of America derives from movies and television shows. “Many of the other international students thought we were going to school in the city and did not realize we were coming to the South,” said Tuleus. “One day I woke up and opened my eyes and realized I love Milledgeville.” GC is unique in its look and size, often-

times those two details are the selling points for incoming freshmen while they are on their tour of the school. “I love that it is a small college town and it gives you that American college feel,” Boehmer said. For many of the international students, the open campus and greenery are what makes them fall in love with GC. “Before I came here, I finished the show Gilmore Girls, and I thought Milledgeville was going to look like the small town in Connecticut,” said Tuleus. For any new student adjusting to a new school and especially a new area can be difficult. Add in learning a different language and culture to the mix, and that is the exchange students process. “I always tell [international students] to come in with an open mind and to be willing to try new things,” said Echeveria. American stereotypes often revolve around size and food but for several of the foreign students, the Southern hospitality is what stood out the most. What better place to experience American culture than a place that has a chicken restaurant where the motto is “my pleasure” and is closed on Sundays.

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09.11.2019

ARTS & LIFE

Reflecting on Mac Miller's life and legacy a year after his untimely death

Eric Boyd
Sports Editor

He was one of the greatest musicians of the 20th century, but I did not care when Prince died. When he died, the Minnesota Twins turned all the lights in their stadium purple. Celebrities flocked to social media to share heartfelt tributes. My high school chemistry teacher cried. I saw the news on Twitter that morning, went to school, and did not think about it again. He made good music, but Prince was not releasing chart-topping projects in 2016, so why was he relevant?

As far as his fans were concerned, his role in their life might as well be over. He had played his part in their experience with music.

That all changed for me on Sept. 7, 2018 when Mac Miller died. I finally understood how someone you never met could have such an impact on you. Suddenly, I was the one mourning for someone whose voice I had only heard through speakers and whose face I only saw on screen.

I was not the only one. Every friend, peer and random face in the crowd who listened to Mac stopped to reflect on his loss.

I grew up with Mac Miller; we all did. I played "Blue Slide Park" on my walk to school in sixth grade and made sure I did not turn it off until I was a few feet into the classroom so everyone would hear it and think I was cool.

"GO:OD AM" was the only album you could hear in my car during September of 2015. I was a superfan when he was alive, but I did not have the epiphany until he died that Mac Miller was the greatest musician of our generation.

He began releasing music and rose to the public perception in high school. From there, the world got to watch him grow and mature through his music. He was the best in the industry at communicating his feelings and true self through his music. Everything he released was intentional and raw. Even fellow musicians were impressed and in awe of his ability.

The beauty of Mac Miller was that he was a constant work in progress. He did not come out of the womb a generational talent.

One of the greatest things about him was that fans early to the scene got to watch him grow and develop from a frat boy party rapper to a musician who created art. That maturation is

rare and a prime example of why he deserves the crown of greatest musician of our generation.

His first big project, "K.I.D.S." was filled with references to girls, drugs and partying. His lyrics were an accurate reflection of his life at the time, but they were also the attributes of a mainstream artist.

Thus, Mac Miller was branded as a mainstream, frat rapper in danger of becoming a flash in the pan. If "K.I.D.S." is the origin of his career, then the set he performed on NPR's Tiny Desk series is the bookend.

He sat on a stool and timidly surveyed the room. He spoke quietly, thoughtfully about what went into making his last

album. The man on the stool with baggage in his past and rings around his eyes appeared to be a far contrast from the wide-eyed, naive kid who rapped, "Kool-Aid and frozen pizza, it's a work of art ain't talkin' Mona Lisa."

When asked about the contrast between his first two albums in an interview with Noisey, Mac Miller said, "I didn't want to be the Adam Sandler of rap anymore."

In that same interview he said he did more growing during the nine months it took to record "Watching Movies with the Sound Off" than he had ever done before. Mac Miller took another leap in maturation in 2015 with the release of his third studio album "GO:OD AM."

The album opens with a fluttering beat and a soft verse about Mac returning to his roots. He sounds as if he is snapped out of his funk and con-

quered his demons. An alarm clock blares at the end of the opening track and a woman says, "good morning baby."

For making money and fans—but not a legacy. He zigged where his contemporaries zagged by creating music that was a reflection of his true self, not a reflection of his audience's desire. Mac Miller's ability to evolve his music and experiment with new sounds is why he was able to stay relevant for so long. He refused to let himself fade from the upper echelon of rappers. Mac Miller was unprecedented.

During a period where his peers put out the same music every year trying to generate a few hits, he sat back and made genuinely good music that mirrored his growth and development as a person.

The reason Mac Mill-

er was able to captivate the music community with his evolution is because he was always honest with his music. Fans were not just invested in him as an artist, they were invested in him as a person. That elevated him to a level of greatness achieved by few.

His brutal honesty and ability to cater to his die-hard fan base formed a close bond between artist and listener which brought him critical and popular praise.

Finally, his influence over the music landscape through artists like Chance the Rapper, Post Malone and Ariana Grande, who he helped develop, solidify his legacy as the greatest musician of our generation.

His albums always featured a slew of talented artists, but he always demanded they bring the same heart and passion to the music he did. That standard along with his refusal to ca-

musicians all over shared their sorrow over social media simply because they were fans of Mac.

Halsey said in an Instagram caption, "Thank you for being the soundtrack to my high school years. For giving me songs I knew every single word to and screamed at the top of my lungs in my first car the year I got my license."

Seemingly every rapper had some connection to Mac, whether they worked with him or were simply fans. Mac Miller's influence transcended genre. He touched everyone from John Mayer to Jay Z, shaping the music landscape and cementing himself as the greatest musician of our generation.

A kid from Pittsburgh went from passing out mixtapes in the hallways and rap battling kids in the school parking lot in the hopes of getting on World Star to earning the title of greatest rapper of our generation.

His seat at the table of legends was earned through a rare ability to develop his music and experiment with new sounds.

The boy rapping about girls and parties in 2009 grew to become a man rapping about drug abuse and demons in his final days, showcasing a nearly unprecedented evolution.

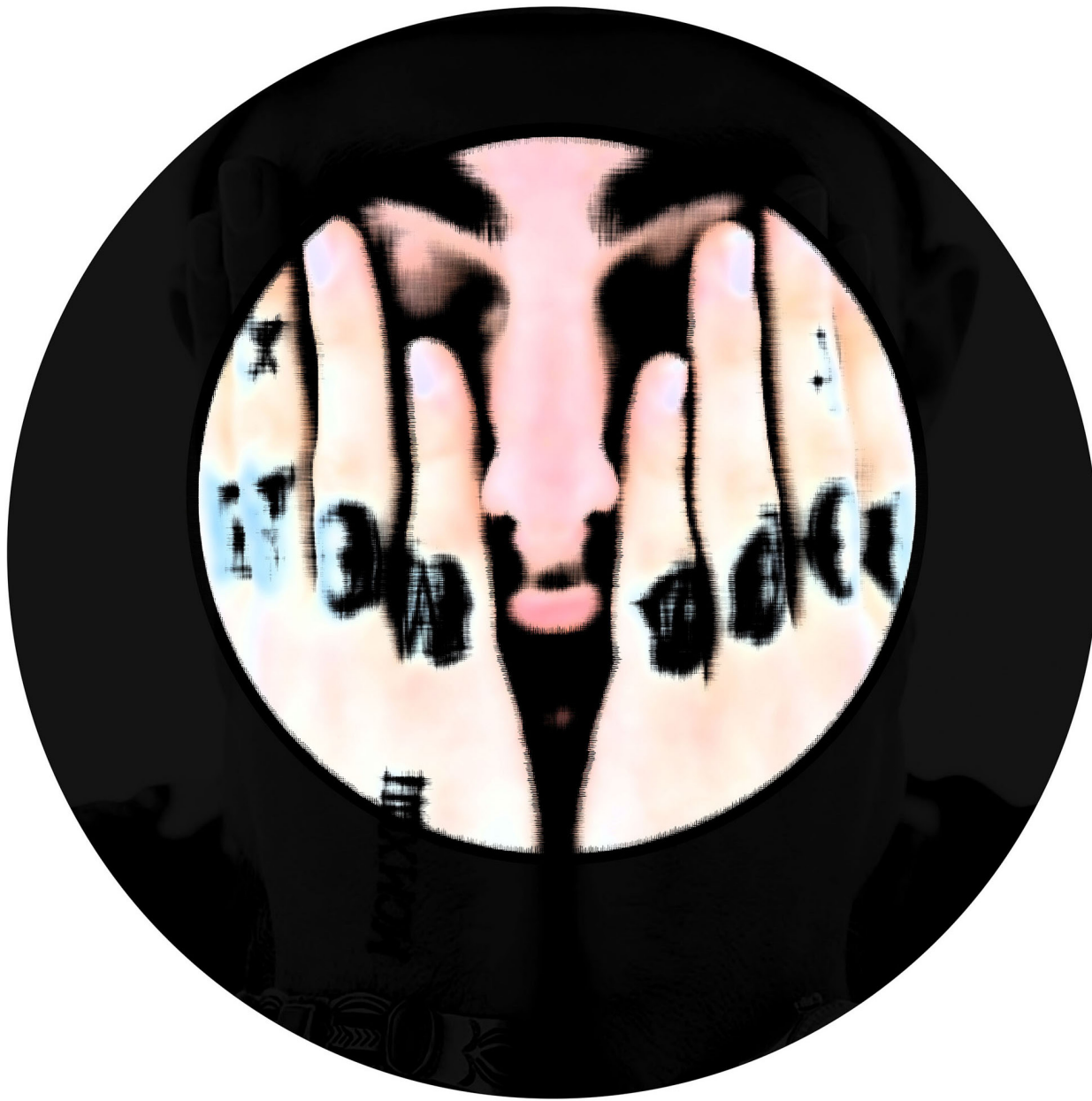
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Finally, his influence over the music landscape through artists like Chance the Rapper, Post Malone and Ariana Grande, who he helped develop, solidify his legacy as the greatest musician of our generation.

This is a paper. It does not make noise, but I imagine if it did, the outro would go something like the opening beat to "Best Day Ever."

A quiet ringing like that of a cell phone or alarm clock would be heard in the background. It would slowly repeat every few seconds, growing louder and louder. A soft hum would play underneath as the beat came into the foreground.

A fifteen second crescendo of mixtape masterpiece would give way to a raspy, upbeat Mac Miller singing, "No matter where life takes me, find me with a smile / Pursuit to be happy, only laughing like a child / I never thought life would be this sweet / It got me' from cheek to cheek."



Courtesy of Art Chair Bill Fisher

album. The man on the stool with baggage in his past and rings around his eyes appeared to be a far contrast from the wide-eyed, naive kid who rapped, "Kool-Aid and frozen pizza, it's a work of art ain't talkin' Mona Lisa."

His development from boy to man—rapper to musician—is what made him great. He defied all the labels placed on him in his early days. His second studio album, "Watching Movies with the Sound Off," was a steep contrast from his first project. The upbeat, optimistic rapper the world thought it knew was replaced with someone more mellow, seemingly weighed down by life.

Although the albums were only two years apart, fans could tell Mac was not in the same happy place he used to be. Instead of hiding his demons from

er was able to captivate the music community with his evolution is because he was always honest with his music. Fans were not just invested in him as an artist, they were invested in him as a person. That elevated him to a level of greatness achieved by few.

The albums he put out were true reflections of who he was as a person. In 2011 when he released "Blue Slide Park," he was a naive kid tantalized by what the world of fame would bring. From there, his honesty with music during his development created a deeper bond with fans because they felt as though they really knew him. Few counterparts in the industry are brave enough to share the deepest parts of themselves with the world the way Mac was.

During a time of chart-topping success, the public pushed Mac towards a career of creating top-40 pop hits for radio. That is a tried and true method

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In the opening song

ter to the masses is why you will never find a Drake or Migos feature.

Instead, he shaped musicians like J. Cole, Ariana Grande and Chance the Rapper. Without Mac, the entire rap scene would be different because many of the artists in it would not be who they are without him.

Post Malone tweeted in a heartfelt tribute to Mac, "You inspired me throughout high school, and I wouldn't be where I was today without you."

J. Cole opened his first show after Mac passed with a teary-eyed rant on the danger of drugs before dedicating the show to Mac.

Chance the Rapper tweeted, "beyond helping me launch my career he was one of the sweetest guys I ever knew. Great man. I loved him for real. I'm completely broken. God bless him."